



The Guardian

VOLUME 40, Issue 3

March 2009

More Smoke and Mirrors

By Officer Mike Severance, SPOG Secretary-Treasurer

At a SPOG Board meeting in January, I learned something which left me speechless. The Seattle taxpayers are being taken for another ride. They don't know it yet. They haven't felt or seen the effects yet, but they will in time. The Oral Board, an integral part of the SPD hiring process for more decades than I have been here, has been eliminated. Doing away with this valuable screening tool means SPD's hiring standards have once again been lowered. More applicants will make it through the hiring process. Quantity...that's what the Chief wants. But what happens to quality? And with the new FTO program, fewer student officers will wash out. Our numbers will increase, but at what cost to the taxpayers?

Let's review some of the rides the Seattle taxpayers have unknowingly taken. For far too long, past members and some current members of the City Council failed to exercise their responsibility to set adequate staffing levels for SPD. In a September 13, 1999 briefing paper to the City Council by then SPOG President Mike Edwards, the downsizing of patrol officers was cited. In 1993 we had around 750 patrol officers. In 1999, that number had fallen to around 575. Today, we are below 500. All these numbers were taken from roll call sheets. The City started playing catch-up a few years ago, but I am not impressed with the results. At the end of 2008 we had 54 more sworn personnel than we had at the beginning of 2006. Any excitement over future increases will be tempered by the significant reduction in quality control.

The Chief hired an outside consultant who created the Neighborhood Policing Plan. As a side note, the same consultant has been hired to work his magic in the Investigations Bureau. The Chief sold the Mayor on NPP. Although staffing was already at a crisis level, the Chief decided to implement the new districts, sectors, squads and days off schedule before staffing was high enough to give it any chance at success...that's assuming it ever had a chance at success. As a result, even fewer officers were available to work on any given day. In spite of the official, doctored and rosy progress reports on NPP,

anybody working Patrol knows exactly what I am talking about. I hope I am wrong, but I don't think NPP will ever achieve its goals no matter how high staffing gets. After writing SPIDER reports and racing from call to call, how much time do we have for proactive police work? Has anybody achieved ownership of their district under NPP? I can guarantee you that nobody has achieved ownership of the L3 district.

The Chief spent millions on an obsolete computerized report writing system called SPIDER. It is not user friendly and never will be. The reports are time consuming and must be written on a computer. Most officers choose to write them on precinct computers, so even fewer officers are on the streets.

The new CAD and MDT systems, more millions of dollars, are about to be implemented. I can hardly wait. Some people have told me these new systems make SPIDER look like the best invention since the wheel.

And now an entire step in the process for screening new applicants has been thrown out. When will it end? Will it ever end? Will the taxpayers ever realize how many rides they have taken on the Smoke and Mirrors Railroad to nowhere? The Chief keeps telling the taxpayers that everything is just fine. Is it?

To borrow a thought from our new President's campaign, SPD needs change at the top, and it appears that is going to happen. The Chief is going to work his magic in Washington, D.C. The taxpayers of America will be able to reap the benefits of his decision making abilities. America's Drug Czar! I'm trying to form a mental picture of the Chief in that position. I don't know if he is looking for an assistant, but someone told me Norm Stamper is looking for a job. Will we ever be able to recover after losing the Chief? I wish I knew.

The CQ Press has published its latest rankings of 388 cities based on crime rates. The latest report shows Seattle has improved. Seattle ranks 221 out of 388

cities. Last year Seattle ranked 262 out of 378 cities. I like this annual publication because it is objective. There are no politics involved, and the figures are not artificially manipulated to make any individual(s) look good. Seattle's latest ranking, although an improvement, has raised a question in my mind. If Seattle crime is at 1967 levels, as the Chief has stated, then at least some of the 220 cities ahead of us must have reached 1940's crime levels in their cities. We should be taking a serious look at the police departments in those cities and try to discover their secrets of success. We would not have to travel very far to check out one of them.

Continued on Page 4

Remembering Our Fallen Heroes



Charles O. Legate EOW: 03-17-1922
Olaf F. Wilson EOW: 03-31-1935
Frank W. Hardy EOW: 03-12-1954
John E. Bartlett EOW: 03-11-1968
Gary R. Lindell EOW: 03-13-2002
Jackson V. Lone EOW: 03-16-2005
Gone But Not Forgotten

IN THIS ISSUE...

- 6-7** Letters to the Editor
- 8** 2009 SPOG Board of Directors
- 9** SPOG Grievance Update

You'll Also Find:

President's Message.....2	Career Survival.....11
Officer of the Month.....3	Chaplain's Corner.....12
Happy Anniversary.....4	Retired News.....14
History Corner.....10	Editors Notes.....16



The Guardian

SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD
2949 Fourth Avenue South
Seattle, WA 98134

Change Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization
US POSTAGE
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 130



The Guardian

Official publication of the
Seattle Police Officers' Guild

2949 4th Avenue S.
Seattle, Washington 98134
Phone (206) 767-1150
E-mail: mail@SeattlePoliceGuild.org

GUILD OFFICERS

President
Rich O'Neill, Operations

Vice President
Ty Elster, North Precinct

Secretary/Treasurer
Mike Severance, North Precinct

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sergeant-at-Arms
John Abraham, Traffic

Position 1
Anthony Baily, Southwest Precinct

Position 2
Tom McLaughlin, West Precinct

Position 3
Ron Smith, Pawn Shop Squad

Position 4
Kevin Stuckey, North Precinct

Position 5
Johne Stevens, West Precinct

Position 6
Randy Robinson, Traffic

Position 7
Ben Hughey, South Precinct

Position 8
Ryan Bailey, Harbor

Position 9
Deb Nicholson, Employment Services

Position 10
Jim Brakebill, Traffic

GUARDIAN STAFF

Editor
Ron Smith, Pawn Shop Squad

Editorial Board
Randy Robinson, Traffic
Deb Nicholson, Employment Services
Jim Brakebill, Traffic

Advertising Manager
Sarah Scott

Layout and Design Artist
Sarah Scott

Editors Emeritus
Dick Rovig
Gordon Barnett
Don MacMillan
Joy Mundy

The opinions expressed in *The Guardian* do not necessarily reflect those of the Seattle Police Department.

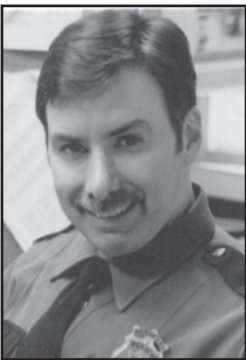
Responsibility for signed articles remains solely with the author.

The Guardian is the only official publication published monthly by and for the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

NON-GUILD MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Call (206) 767-1150 for information

President's Message

By Sergeant Rich O'Neill, SPOG President



In 1837 Hans Christian Andersen wrote a tale entitled, “The Emperor’s New Clothes.” The plot is about an emperor of a prosperous city who cares more about clothes than military pursuits or entertainment. He hires two swindlers who promise him the finest suit of clothes from the most beautiful cloth. This cloth, they tell him, is invisible to anyone who was either stupid or unfit for his position. The Emperor cannot see the (non-existent) cloth, but pretends that he can for fear of appearing stupid; his ministers do the same. When the swindlers report that the suit is finished, they dress him in these “invisible” clothes. The Emperor then goes on a procession through the capital showing off his “new clothes”. During the course of the procession, a small child cries out, “But he has nothing on!” The crowd realizes the child is telling the truth. The Emperor, however, holds his head high and continues the procession. As you can see, the story is about people who denied even the most obvious evidence and pretended not to see what was in front of their eyes, just to follow along, and in fear of contradicting the “emperor.”

I’m sure we can all think of work experiences when we felt like we were living in this story. Some who read this may fill the role of the “swindlers” who buy into a plan or make their mind up on an issue and advise the powers to be to accept their misguided advice. Some that read this may fall into the role of the “ministers” who know it is all “BS” but follow along anyway for fear of offending “the powers to be.” And some would be in the role of the “small child.” The one who stated the obvious and alerted the powers to be that “the plan” will not work or “the decision” they have made is flawed and will not stand up to scrutiny. Lastly, there are those who are the “Emperors.” The ones who allow ego to get in their way and despite be alerted to “the obvious” ignore it and march on.

WTO was the classic example. Many of the emperors refused to listen. When confronted with the obvious evidence of the pending doom, many infamous quotes were uttered, “Well the only thing you will be battling is boredom.” “The protestors will cooperate and protest The Seattle Way” And “If you can’t do the job we’ll find someone who can.” Now for those who think that was past history and we’ve learned from those times, I’m afraid to inform you that you have just won the role of “minister.”

2009 is here and change is needed in SPD! The way we are doing business needs an overhaul from the top down. We need a whole lot less “ministers” or “yes people” who are unwilling to buck the crowd even if it means the organization is going in the wrong direction. These are employees of all ranks who are intelligent but refuse to voice an objection to a bad idea or decision. We definitely need less “swindlers” who sell the bad plan or decision in the first place, but they will always be around in every organization. They only get validated when someone in authority actually accepts their way of thinking. We desperately need more “small children” from the above tale who are willing to stand up and state the obvious. I look at those individuals as “leaders.” The types of individuals who are willing to do more than just say, “I concur Chief!” We have them on SPD, but just not enough and sadly they are often dismissed as “malcontents”, “rabble rousers”, or “non- team players.” We also need Emperors who are willing to stop and listen to the obvious, rather than blindly dismiss it. When the decision is found to be wrong or the plan collapses, the worker bees remember who made that decision and credibility is lost.

The Neighborhood Policing Plan needs to be reexamined. We started down this road in January 2008 and we need to turn around. Not having relief squads is a recipe for disaster. Officers work for a different supervisor on any given shift. We have lost squad cohesiveness and camaraderie. The Mayor’s Police Accountability Blue Ribbon Panel did a lot of work to try and improve accountability. So what does SPD do? We come up with a work shift where supervisors may

only see an officer twice a week. That reduces accountability and violates any leadership principle of command and control. We want the officers to get to know their districts but we increase the geographic size of their beat. Again, in its present form it needs to be reexamined. Like many “plans” in years past, it may look good on paper but when tried in reality, the flaws are exposed. NPP is not solving crime problems or the discontent among citizen groups. The South Seattle Crime Prevention Council is so fed up that they submitted their own public disclosure request in an effort to check crime statistics. Their research did not match the official message issued by the department and the group issued a press release announcing their findings. Like many community groups, they also are not pleased with the number of officers assigned to their precinct. They are tired of hearing that “the department met hiring goals.” The only staffing statistic that should matter is the net increase in officers. It really doesn’t matter and is actually misleading to keep repeating the number that has been hired in any given year. Since 2006 we only have a net increase of 42 officers. That is it. The new 10 hour patrol shifts are also being touted as the answer to the problem. This too is misleading. If we try and move to the new shifts before we have the adequate number of bodies in patrol, I am told the staffing problem will be worsened.

Further contributing to the staffing problem is the paperless report system known as SPIDER. Again, on paper no pun intended) the plan sounds so high tech and efficient, but in reality it is worsening the staffing problems. I had an officer tell me that a simple warrant arrest report which used to take 30 minutes, tied him up for over two hours. This equates to an extra hour and a half that he was not on the street patrolling his district. The new CAD system implementation has been delayed and I’ve heard it is not “user friendly.” This will mean even more time off the streets.

The current economic situation has hit the area and that will impact crime and our ability to respond to it. A recent news report mentioned that in the last five recessions, as unemployment and widespread law enforcement budget cuts begin, crime will spike. The report from the Police Executive Research Forum stated that as “crime increases, a wave of public safety budget cuts will only add to the problem.” So what do we do here in Seattle? Overtime that was used to bring in extra officers for emphasis patrols has been eliminated. These emphasis patrols have been used throughout the city to control crime in problem areas. Residents in the North Pct are upset about the violence around Frat row and The Ave. Citizens in the south end are upset about police staffing promises that have not been kept and the rise in gang violence around the Rainier corridor. Downtown businesses, who are trying to survive the economic slide, are still unhappy with the Pike and Pine drug dealers. All this is happening with the summer just a few months away. Extra officers have traditionally been brought in during the summer months to augment patrol and to keep a lid on things, especially around the parks. What is the plan for this year? Who has the courage to stand up and “tell it like it really is?”

Change is also needed in the disciplinary venue. Decisions that come from OPA are not infallible and when flaws in the decision are explained they should not be ignored. We need to stop checking the prevailing minds as we wonder how the press might interpret the decision. Arbitrators and the civil service board should not be in the position to correct the wrong decisions made by the department. There are plenty of arbitration decisions and civil service rulings that indicate what is needed to justify imposing serious discipline. We need to do what is right to restore the confidence of the rank and file in those making these decisions.

Continued on Next Page

President's Message

Continued from Previous Page

Are the Emperor's listening? Would it be so horrible to reexamine some of these decisions before we get further down the road? Are these upset citizen groups just rabble rousers? Are the officers on patrols that are raising these issues just whining malcontents? Are the decisions that overturn the disciplinary decision all wrong? To listen to some city leaders and police commanders, we are living in "Pleasantville." Crime is not an issue, just look at (and believe) our statistics. Staffing is under control, "Look at how many we've hired so far." "I think we all deserve a "B." Meanwhile, the emperors hold their head high, ignore the crowd, and continue to march. At some point the crowd will have had it with the Emperor's who refuse to listen to the obvious. 2009 is being heralded as the "Year of Change."

2009 is also a local election year. If the citizens feel that they are being ignored or always fed a "party line" they will have the power to ensure that change does indeed come to Seattle and in turn to the Seattle Police Department.

As we go to print there has still been no official confirmation on the Chief's departure for D.C. We will have more to say when it happens but, anyone who thinks we are on the right track and all we need to do is continue the current policies should be barred from applying for the job. SPD is in need of a real shakeup and some real leadership! Someone who is willing to lay down deep roots and who will be here for the long haul. Someone who will check the ego at the door and truly examine the policies and practices from the top down, even if that means they will have to admit that decisions that were made were wrong. Someone who will get our organization back to basics and give the citizens and the officers what they want: A police department which will care more about the community's crime concerns than the latest CALEA standard that needs to be adopted so we can keep our certification plaque in the lobby. Hopefully, meaningful change is on the way and the emperor will not need to be told that he is not wearing anything. Stay tuned and always stay safe.

Officer of the Month

By Detective Christopher Hall, False Alarm Unit

The SPOG Officers of the Month for February 2009 is Officer Randy Maxwell of the North Precinct, as nominated by Sergeant Diane Newsom for starting with a trespassing and warrant arrest, which ended up solving numerous crimes.

On December 3, 2008 Officer Maxwell was doing proactive police work in the University District at a problematic house. Officer Randy Maxwell arrested a trespasser on an outstanding warrant. The suspect stated he wanted to talk to detectives about a burglary ring. Detectives came and interviewed the suspect. The suspect led officers to several storage lockers and houses where the stolen items were being kept. Three search warrants were served, one using Bellevue SWAT. Numerous arrests were made with cash, drugs and money being recovered. Items

from over 29 burglaries were identified. Besides this while he was cleansing his soul, the suspect solved numerous auto thefts from all around the city. He also had lots of information on a forgery ring that is operating in the city.

Sergeant Newsom noted, "This is just an example of all the excellent work Randy Maxwell does. He follows crime trends in the University District and works with patrol officers sharing information to make the area safer for neighbors who live there."

As Officer of the Month, Officer Maxwell has selected the Youth Athletic Fund as the recipient of the \$250 SMCU donation.

athenian inn

**Overlooking
Seattle's Waterfront
in the Heart
of the
Pike Place Market**



Good Food & Beverages
"Old Fashion Ice Cream Soda Fountain"
Exciting selection of Foreign & Domestic Beer!

Breakfast, Lunch and early Dinners
Open Monday-Saturday 6:30am-6:30pm



Thank You to Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union for their generous donation of \$250 to the Youth Athletic Fund in the name of Officer of the Month, Officer Randy Maxwell.
Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

Important Date!!!!

**SPOG Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 25th
2000 hours**

Complimentary Dinner All Members Welcome

Superior Service and Results For All Your Real Estate Needs!

- ✓ Having a **20+ year veteran** of Seattle-area law enforcement as a husband has given me a deep understanding of the **unique real estate needs** and preferences of police officers and their families!
- ✓ As a **dedicated full-time agent** having earned the Certified Residential Specialist (CRS) designation held by only about 4% of agents nationally, I have helped **hundreds of officers** obtain home ownership through excellence in customer service!
- ✓ **Ask me about my special police family programs!**

My **knowledge and experience** can help you if you are buying your first home, second home, last home, or investment property (1031 exchanges)!

Representing sellers and buyers, I will treat your transaction like my own personal transaction.

That's my promise to you!

Call me to learn about using a **police officer's deferred comp contributions** as a down payment to purchase a home!

Mastering your move



SOLD BY
Sue Hammermaster
(425)417-5733

Windermere
Windermere Real Estate/Renton, Inc.

www.suehammermaster.com or sue@suehammermaster.com



Mike Burns
S.P.D. Reserve

The Keystone Program

**Direct Line:
(425) 643-6111**

- ◆ CONV, VA, FHA, REFI, 0% DOWN, PURCHASE, HELOC'S, LINES OF CREDIT, CONSTRUCTION, REMODEL
- ◆ Over **150 Lenders** to chose from, Guarantees you the **Best Rate!!**
- ◆ UNLIKE OTHER LENDERS, THE KEYSTONE PROGRAM WILL USE YOUR **OVERTIME, OFF DUTY, COURT AND METRO** TO APPROVE YOUR LOAN!!!
- ◆ Please visit **www.seattlepoliceguild.org** (at website click on "members") for your **FREEE** pre-approval and credit report!!
- ◆ Police, Fire, City, County Employees, and their extended familes save over **\$1,000.00!!!**



More Smoke and Mirrors

Continued from Page 1

On the other side of Lake Washington is Bellevue. They came in at 49 out of 388. I wonder what type of Neighborhood Policing Plan they have. Do you think they ever heard of SPIDER?

In the August, 2008 *Guardian* I wrote about the strange omission of CALEA standard 1.3.9 from the SPD Manual’s Firearms section. That is the standard which, if included, would require all SPD weapons to be safe or reliable and in good working order. That omission was brought to the attention of the Command Staff on 7-7-08. I thought the situation would be quickly corrected, but a recent check of the Manual showed it has not been fixed. Does this mean SPD is not in compliance with CALEA standards? I hope nobody spills the beans to CALEA during SPD’s re-accreditation process.

I watched an old movie recently. It had been many years since I had watched this John Wayne movie, *McQ*. It was filmed in Seattle, and many SPD officers at the time had roles in the film. Most of you wouldn’t recognize them, but I knew them all. It was enjoyable to see Seattle in the early 70’s. It was nostalgic to see the old patrol write-up room and holding cells on the 3rd floor of the PSB. They had just remodeled that area when my brother and I put a fighting suspect’s head through the brand new drywall. There was also a scene showing the old ER entrance at Harborview and a glimpse of the first Medic One. It was similar to a current day RV. The plot of the movie was corny, but you might enjoy seeing scenes of the SPD of old.

I want to devote a few words promoting the Retired Seattle Police Officer Association and RAP, Retired/Active Police. The RSPOA has over 900 members. Most are retired LEOFF I officers, but there are a few LEOFF II officers who have joined. They have a monthly luncheon meeting. It’s a great opportunity for retired officers to get together with old friends, make new ones and enjoy the company of people who shared the same and unique profession. For further information, go to rspoa.homestead.com.

RAP holds a weekly luncheon every Thursday at noon at the Lake City Elks Club. It will cost you \$1.00 plus the price of your lunch which varies depending on what you choose from the menu.

This is held in the lower level dining room located on the northeast corner of the building. No reservations are required. It’s a good time, and I encourage more LEOFF II officers, active and retired, to attend.

Since a lot of people consider me to be ancient, I have been asked to write about some historic things...not necessarily ancient. Next month I will give some details about an old picture of me taken in 1970-71 which has appeared at the North Precinct. The young Seattle pimp in that picture with me turned out to be the most intelligent criminal I have personally encountered during my SPD career. But this month I want to relate a little bit of history from the Korean War and something I’ll bet none of you ever knew.

I attended 1st Grade at St. Catherine’s in Seattle. My Mom, brother, sister and myself lived here that year because my Dad was off to war. He was a Marine Corps fighter pilot, and his squadron was VMF(N) 513, the Flying Nightmares. VMF(N) 513 provided the sole night fighter air defense and interdiction support for all the United Nations troops in Korea. The nickname, Flying Nightmares, was coined by the squadron’s commanding officer in March 1951 after it had flown 604 night combat strikes in one month and inflicted severe damage on the enemy. It was decided the nickname more than described how the enemy looked upon the squadron. When the squadron first arrived in Korea, it flew 15 F7F Tigercats and 15 F4U-5N Corsairs. In the summer of 1952, the squadron received its first jets, the F3D Skyknight. And here is the bit of history. VMF(N) 513 made aviation history when one of its F3D’s made the first radar kill on an enemy jet aircraft at night. The squadron has gone through many transitions since then. It is currently designated VMA 513 and flies Harrier jets. Its nickname is still the Flying Nightmares. My Dad flew 62 combat missions in Korea and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He returned to his family in Seattle, and we promptly moved to his new assignment at MCAS Cherry Point in North Carolina.

The February Personnel Order shows 10 new hires and 1 separation.

Be safe out there.

Stress Relief for First Responders

Mark E. Hughes L.M.P.

(206) 324-5433

821 E. Thomas St • Seattle

lic.# MA00006415

1/3 OFF 1st Visit • Insurance Accepted

Happy Anniversary

The *Guardian* Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG members during the month of March 2009!

40 years of Service

Detective Harry James, Human Trafficking TF

25 years of Service

Sergeant Steve Anderson, K9
Officer Glen Mulkey, Motors

20 years of Service

Officer Tom Henshaw, Harbor

15 years of Service

Detective Zsolt Dornay, MCTF
Officer Dan Curtis, SWAT
Officer Shannon Seelig, West Precinct

5 years of Service

Officer Tara Hirjak, North Precinct
Officer Owen Storm, North Precinct
Officer Raul Vaca, West Precinct
Officer Jeffry Dotson, West Precinct
Officer Clark Dickson, South Precinct

THE SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND PEER SUPPORT PRESENTS:

STRONG ALONE

STRONGER TOGETHER

A Police Training Seminar for all SPD Employees

SAVE THE DATE:

Weds March 11, 2009

BOEING on E. Marginal Way S. Seattle, WA

0700-1600 hrs

FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS:

Bobby Smith, Former Louisiana State Trooper
Trainer and Author of “Visions of Courage”
and “The Will to Survive”

Colleen Nick,
Founder of Morgan Nick Foundation
Sponsor of “Project Hope” - to assist families
who have a missing child

Registration is open to current SPD employees

Email Edie Burke @ edie.burke@seattle.gov to hold your spot today.

*****Bacon Bowl President*****

Office:.....206-935-7700

Res:.....206-937-8873

FAX:.....206-935-7000

Pager:.....206-997-4200

E-mail.....harrietb@johnlscott.com

5242 California Avenue S.W.

Seattle, WA 98136

THIS OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

REAL ESTATE

Harriet Benjamin

Sales Associate

Member of the Police Family since 1939

FFPOA iCare for Kids 5K Run/Walk

Submitted by Michael Larson, US Probation

The Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association (FPPOA) will be holding its 2009 National Training Institute (NTI) at the Sheraton Hotel in Seattle, Washington, from Sunday, April 5th through Wednesday, April 8th. During the four-day training, a variety of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies will be in town for the NTI. In years past, FPPOA has selected a charitable organization to which donations can be made. This year, in an effort to raise awareness about issues involving child safety, FPPOA has selected the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). In furtherance of this effort, FPPOA is sponsoring a 5K run/walk through Myrtle Edwards Park. While the event is open to the public, FPPOA would like to extend a special invitation to Seattle’s law enforcement community and their families. All proceeds from this event will go to benefit NCMEC.

The “FPPOA iCare for Kids 5K Run/Walk” is scheduled for Sunday, April 5, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. Participants can register for this event by mail or online and the entry fee is \$25.00, and \$30.00 on the day of the race. The entry fee includes a complimentary race T-shirt.

The entry form for the race can be found at www.fppoa.org/documents/5K_iCareentryFORM_final.pdf and must be postmarked by March 27, 2009. Please print and complete the entry form, and mail it with payment to: FPPOA iCare for Kids 5K Run/Walk, c/o Seattle Marathon Association, P.O. Box 31849, Seattle, WA 98103.

Online registration can be done at www.active.com using the search event option with keyword(s) “iCare for kids”. Please note there is an additional processing fee for online registration. Online registration through www.active.com will remain open until April 2, 2009, at 11:59 p.m.

Race day registration begins on April 5, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. at the entrance to Myrtle Edwards Park. At the conclusion of the race, FPPOA will be hosting an awards ceremony and raffle at The Old Spaghetti Factory located at 2801 Elliott Avenue, Seattle, WA 98121.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the race, please contact United States Probation Officer Michael J. Larson at 206-370-8539 or email him at michael_larson@wawp.uscourts.gov.



STREET SURVIVAL SEMINAR 2009

Seattle, Washington
March 23rd & 24th, 2009
Hosted By: International Assoc. of Women Police

Seminar Location:
Washington State Criminal Justice Academy
19010 1st Ave. South
Seattle, WA 98148

Mention
Seattle Police Dept Discount-
Code: SPD30
at the time of registration and receive
30% Discount*
\$150.50 per person
*applicable to individual registrations as well as departmental registrations

The 2009 Street Survival Seminar will help you:

- **Develop** the values, inner strength, and winning mindset you need to keep yourself motivated, effective, and safe on the street.
- **Gain** valuable insight into new less-lethal options available to you.
- **Learn** to use crisis rehearsal and mental preparation strategies to prepare yourself for virtually any situation you may face on the job... or off.
- **Prepare** yourself and your family to take immediate, potentially life-saving action during an unexpected off-duty encounter.
- **Overcome** the “routine” nature of the job and avoid one of the deadliest enemies in law enforcement: Complacency.
- **Navigate** the frustrations of working within a bureaucracy and the stress of working your beat.
- **Develop** the perceptive skills needed to effectively hunt terrorists in your own backyard
- **Gain** the mental edge you need to survive and WIN.

“Excellent course! A must for all sworn officers around the country or world. This training will keep us alive.”

-Sergeant, Clearwater PD, FL



For additional dates & locations visit www.calibrepress.com

Pricing
Regular officer: \$215
Spouse: \$75

Group Discounts
5-14 registrations
SAVE 10%
15 or more
SAVE 15%
* Must register together to be eligible

Bring photo safety ID. Seating based on divisions except adult family members & authorized agency personnel. No-shows forfeit fees. US funds only. Training may be tax deductible, see your accountant.

REGISTER NOW TO ENSURE YOUR SEAT!

Phone (24 hrs./day): 800.323.0037
Fax (24 hrs./day): 866.225.4273
Online (24 hrs./day): www.calibrepress.com

Mail: Calibre Press Street Survival Seminar
7616 LBJ Freeway, Ste. 405
Dallas, TX 75251

Payment Method* (check one): ☐ Dept. PO (attach form) ☐ Check/Money Order (payable to Calibre Press, Inc.)
Credit Card: ☐ VISA ☐ Amex ☐ MC ☐ Disc ☐ CCR Exp. Date: _____

Name* _____ E-mail* _____

Address: ☐ Hm. ☐ Agg. _____ City* _____ State* _____ Zip* _____

Phone(s)* Hm _____ Agg. _____ Fax: _____

Rank* _____ Agency _____

Repeat Attendee? _____ # seminars attended _____ • Send me _____ flyers to share w/fellow officers Discount code: _____

All *Guardian* submissions are due
by March 15, 2009
to spogguardian@yahoo.com

The Seattle Police Motorcycle Drill Team presents:

2009 Talent Show

Friday, March 20, 5 pm
Seattle Police Range Pavilion

Headline Entertainment
Dinner and Beverages
Fantastic Raffle Prizes
Officer of the Year Award
Dance the Night Away
Music by "Kevin O'Neill"

Only! \$25 per person

To Perform in the Show: call Mike Henry 206 799-1175

Call For ticket information: Sgt. Brian Johnson 206-733-9189 Or any Drill Team member

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am sending money to the P.A.C. Fund which will be my forth contribution. As long as I'm alive I will send this amount, or more, each year. This is my way of saying Thank You to all who served on the contract committee for the job they did.

I remember back in the 1950's the city would give us \$5.00 to even \$10.00 a month raises. One year we received a \$5.00 raise which put me in a higher tax bracket, costing me to pay \$7.00 a month, net -\$2.00. The good old days were sometimes not so good.

In the mid 1950's police and fireman were paired to go door to door to ask voters to vote for Proposition #5. At that time, I was a fireman and was paired with Fred Keenan a police officer (who was involved with organizing the Police Guild.) If Proposition # 5 passed it would have taxed certain occupations, proceeds were for wage increases for police and fire, it was defeated. I was in the Fire Department for 6 years and Police Department for 22 years retiring in 1981.

In February 2008 issue of the Guardian there were 14 contributors to the PAC that were not active police officers. I am challenging all retired police officers to contribute \$100 or more per year to the PAC to thank the Guild for the added income that we are now receiving due to their efforts with the current contract.

Again, thank all of you for making my retirement better.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,
Harvey D. Olson #1893

**SUPPORT THE SEATTLE POLICE OFFICERS' GUILD
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

The following contribution is made payable to the Seattle Police Officers' Guild Political Action Committee and is being forwarded to the Seattle Police Officers' Guild Political Action Fund Chairman held at SPOG, 2949 4th Avenue, S.; Seattle, WA 98134.

This contribution is voluntary and with the understanding that the SPOG Political Action Committee will use this money to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with state and local elections. I understand that this deduction is not tax deductible. All contributions will be subject to Washington State public disclosure laws.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Contribution: \$_____ **Signature:**_____

Date: _____

Dear Editor,

A couple of months ago one of our fellow officers retired, and a thought came to me that I should write this letter to tell a little bit about what a great person and officer he was. I think it is a shame that too often we wait until death to honor and speak well about our family, friends, co-workers etc. Why not appreciate and praise them when they are alive?

Officer Jim Pitts, a southern gentleman with a fine taste for hats, known for wearing fedoras. In Georgia, Jim was working for an airline company that went under before coming to SPD. He was older than the average person coming on but quickly adapted to being a cop like a duck in water. Jim established a reputation for working hard and being proactive along with officer Dave Toner, they worked patrol together and the West Anti-Crime Team.

Because of the large problem of drug activity in the downtown corridor it was decided to start a day ACT in the west precinct, Jim was one of the officer's hand picked to start up the new unit. I consider myself fortunate to have worked in the Anti-Crime Team when veterans John Schweiger, Dave Toner, Don Johnson and Jim Pitts were there; they are very experienced and taught me a lot. What really stands out is how humble Jim always was, I can imagine him saying right now "you guys taught me" That is just how he is. Jim would always do excellent work but never expected praise or credit for his efforts.

Jim is an avid reader, which has made him very educated in the use of the English language. Those of you that have ever read one of Jim's reports will remember with what choice words and eloquence it were written. It is like a piece of art and reading Jim's words is like reading poetry, many times I had good laughs.

Speaking was the same; Jim has that southern hospitality disposition and uses proper words. Jim can chew someone out in the most polite manner, and for the street thugs don't you dare call him "dude" or "dog" or some other phrase that shouldn't be used to address an officer.

Jim was known for dressing down during buy busts as a crazy street bum and carried a metal bar (walking stick). He wore a brimmed hat, white beard, with sores on his face, ratty clothing and carrying a garbage bag filled with junk. He was invisible to the drug dealers and could be right next to them during a deal because he was just “a crazy bum” mumbling to himself and digging in dumpsters. As an under cover buyer I always felt safe with Jim on the job, I knew he was close with his metal bar and shiny wheel gun and with his observation skills he didn’t miss anything.

Once I was chasing a drug dealer on foot as I peeled around a corner in pursuit I saw the suspect hadn't made it past the old bum in the alley. As I handcuffed the suspect he was in disbelief that he was stopped by the crazy old bum that disappeared out of site.

During an attempted “rip,” a suspect was trying to drive away and was desperate to get away, he made the mistake of reaching for something between the seats in an attempt to scare me. I was half way inside the car stopping the felon from grabbing a weapon and was relieved when I saw a familiar long barreled revolver that Jim carried come over my shoulder pointed right at the perp.

Jim went back to patrol and again partnered with Dave Toner, together they made a huge footprint while working 1st Watch. When I would stop people on the street their names always came up, it was spoken with both fear (of committing crimes in Jim's beat) and respect (for a reputation of being firm but fair)

On a personal side Jim is the kind of guy that literally would give you the shirt off his back. I would want him at my side any day because he is the type of person that will not let you down. I think I'm probably speaking for many of us that have had interactions with Jim Pitts.

Jim we miss you here at SPD but hope that you are able to enjoy your retirement for many years, hiking, reading, road trips and buying new hats. Thank you for the things you've passed on to us, intentional or not, and for the many good memories.

Officer Daniel Espinoza #6276

Letters to the Editor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Blue,

I would like to tell you about our granddaughter, a beautiful 6 ½ year old little girl named MacKenzie. Before she was even born MacKenzie had the odds stacked against her. Born to drug and alcohol using parents, she suffered 2 strokes in utero and her future was very uncertain. She was born with club feet, hips out of place, her right leg “backwards”, and a condition that results in hardening of her joints. MacKenzie requires 100% care since she is not able to sit without assistance, breathes through a tube in her tummy. In her 6+ years of life, she has had 37 surgeries and spends many hours traveling to Children’s Hospital in Seattle as well as various other therapy appointments. She requires 16 hours a day nursing care. MacKenzie cannot talk or walk but if you were to meet MacKenzie, you would instantly see the sparks in this little girl’s eyes. She communicates through her heartwarming smiles, contagious laughter and slow deliberate movements of her arms and hands. There is no doubt what MacKenzie is saying when she wraps her arms around you to give you a hug.

When we became her legal guardians 6 years ago, not once have we hesitated in getting what MacKenzie needed to develop in all the ways she possibly can. We continue to transport her in our SUV to various places to receive treatment and attend medical appointments. This means putting MacKenzie in her wheelchair to take her to the car, taking her out of her wheelchair and lifting her into her specialized car seat. We then lift her 70 lbs wheelchair into the back of our vehicle. Once we arrive at our destination, we do the same thing, but in reverse. When the appointment is over we head home after going through the same process. We are very grateful for the assistance the nursing staff provides; unfortunately once MacKenzie reaches 40 lbs they are no longer allowed to lift her. MacKenzie is now 35 lbs and it is getting very difficult for my wife and I to physically lift MacKenzie and her wheelchair.

You are probably wondering why I am telling you this. I am asking for your help, Brothers. We have been looking for a wheelchair van and have been so discouraged since they are very expensive and out of our price range. These specialized vans cost between \$35,000 - \$75,000. If there is anyone that can help or know of someone that can, please let me know. Our family appreciates this more than we can say. Thank you Brothers and Sisters.

SPD REtired, Michael T. Scott #2557

Email: Ellibird222@yahoo.com

(360) 387-0621

The Guild actively urges its members to write articles for publication in *The Guardian*. The newspaper cannot survive without membership contributions.

All articles and advertisements submitted for publication will be accepted subject to editorial review and changes. The editor shall retain the decision to publish, not publish, or edit an article/advertisement. The editor's decision to publish or not publish an article or advertisement can be appealed to the editorial board, which shall have final and binding decision making authority over the publication of the article/advertisement. Articles appearing under an author's byline do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

Morris K. Fortmann, Jr.
Attorney at law

PERSONAL SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL RESULTS



More Than 20 Years Experience

Divorce	Parenting Plans	Child Support
Child Relocation Act	Child Custody	Property Division
Modifications	Paternity	Wills
Pension Division (LEOFF)	Maintenance (Alimony)	Probate

206-622-5191

2009 SPOG Board



President
Sgt. Rich O'Neill

president@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2011



Vice President
Sgt. Ty Elster

vicepresident@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2007 to 2/28/2010



Secretary/Treasurer
Officer Mike Severance

treasurer@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2011



Sergeant-at-Arms
Officer John Abraham

sgtarms@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #1
Sgt. Tony Baily

boardpos1@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #2
Officer Tom McLaughlin

boardpos2@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2010



Board Position #3
Detective Ron Smith

boardpos3@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #4
Officer Kevin Stuckey

boardpos4@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2010



Board Position #5
Officer Johney Stevens

boardpos5@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #6
Officer Randy Robinson

boardpos6@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2010



Board Position #7
Officer Ben Hughey

boardpos7@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #8
Officer Ryan Bailey

boardpos8@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2010



Board Position #9
Sgt. Deb Nicholson

boardpos9@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2009 to 2/28/2011



Board Position #10
Officer Jim Brakebill

boardpos10@seattlepoliceguild.org
Current term: 3/1/2008 to 2/28/2010

SPOG Grievance Update

Grievance #	Status	Issue
07-06	Pending Arbitration Hearing	Member transferred without following the procedure outlined in the contract.
08-01	Pending Settlement	NPP overtime issue. Members were told by commander that they would receive OT for work on their furloughs during NPP transition. Those members who were told that will be paid the OT.
08-02	Set for Step 4 Hearing	Member disciplined after 180 day expired, following an FRB.
08-03	Settled by MOA	Member questioned without following Article 3 procedures.
08-05	Settled by MOA	Two members disciplined after 180 days expired. Discipline removed and OPA finding changed.
08-06	Arbitrator selected. Waiting on hearing dates.	Grievance over Pay Step Implementation on the new CBA.
08-07	Frozen at Step 2 pending settlement	Safe Staffing Grievance. Supervisor failed to follow Section 4.11 of the new CBA.
08-08	Frozen at Step 2 pending settlement discussions	Members charged for Vacation Time while they were on Admin Re-assignment
08-09	Settled by return to previous assignment	Member admin re-assigned without following section 7.4
09-01	Pending Step 3 Meeting	Member disciplined after 180 days and No Just Cause
09-02	Step 2	Member disciplined for an accident after 180 days and No Just Cause

History Corner

By The Guardian Staff

Downhill

By Don MacMillan, Editor

This article was written by former SPOG editor, the late Sergeant Don MacMillan on the retirement of Chief Patrick Fitzsimons. This article was printed in the July 1993 Guardian.

There was a news flash on the TV the other day about the chief retiring next February. When you stop to think about it, the chief has brought some needed changes over the past 15 years.

I can remember when we went through several chiefs, each with his own ideas on how the Department should be run. If my memory serves me correctly, we had seven chiefs in 18 months.

The new chief, whoever he or she is, will be faced with many of the same problems our current chief has had with the City Council and the Community.

I read in the newspaper that the City Council would welcome applications from the current members of the police department, but that unofficially they are not going to consider anyone from the Department. That could be a mistake due to the diversity of the community and the knowledge that only someone who has worked here and lives here would have.

The City Council for years has been trying to tell the chief how the department should be run, rather than giving us the tools necessary to do our job. The City Council has piece-mealed things they have given us, knowing that we will continue doing our job as that’s what we are trained to do.

We work under conditions that other city departments, or for that matter, the private sector business would never tolerate. One prime example is the remodeling job that they did for the fifth floor of the Public Safety Building. They somehow managed to come up with new carpet and new desks, but didn’t have enough money to do the lighting or even give us decent chairs or other furnishing such as a typewriter stands.

I really believe that the councilmember’s need to turn their attention to enacting laws that will benefit the citizens and make our job easier. The council has a tendency to listen to small groups such as the Mothers Against Police Harassment rather than looking at the whole picture. There probably have been incidents where an individual has been

stopped and no explanation given. This is wrong, but it’s not harassment.

I have talked with officers who work downtown and they have been told by the “gang bangers” that they will turn them into Mothers Against Police Harassment if they stop them again. What is the world coming to when a police officer can’t do his job?

I was at a crime scene one night. We were taking photographs when this one citizen came over to me and told me not to take his photograph. I told him that we were investigating a homicide and that if he didn’t want his picture taken he should leave the area. He threatened to turn me in and my response was to tell him to leave. About an hour later a bottle crashed to the pavement after being thrown from the parking garage at Third and Pine. Unknown if my friend was the one who threw the bottle.

It would be great if the City Council would pass laws that will allow us to arrest people for urinating in public, drinking in public or for that matter begging. I contacted the warrant divisions and they informed me that there are no outstanding warrants for the above offenses because they are violations. There are FTA’s for not appearing on the citations but it would be ridiculous to burden a higher court by booking anyone for the FTA’s. No one that I know would sit on a bench in Pioneer Square. The council needs to get their heads out of the sand and worry more about helping us rather than throwing up blockades.

If they would spend more time in the community and find out what the regular citizen is thinking, not just the special interest groups, we would all be better off. I have talked with victims and witnesses of crimes who want us to do more; we can’t as long as our hands are tied.

We as police officers for the city are not asking much from the city. When we get the new chief, I hope he will be a policeman, like our current chief, not like the politician the City Council wants. In order to do our job we need strong leadership on our side. I hope that City Council remembers that the Major is the one who appoints the chief and the job of the City Council is to confirm that individual.

On behalf of the officers who have worked for you, Chief, good luck in the future. If you decide to run for the City Council let us know.

LAPPL Files Lawsuit Over Helmet Issue

Los Angeles, February 18, 2009 – The Los Angeles Police Protective League filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court today against the Los Angeles Police Department for ignoring officer safety by violating its own helmet policy as well as California employment safety laws.

The lawsuit stems from orders given to LAPD officers in advance of a planned pro-Palestinian demonstration on January 10. Against policy, officers were told not to wear their protective headgear, but instead told to keep their helmets “nearby.”

They did not have access to headgear as the demonstration grew violent, and one officer was sent to the hospital with a head injury after being hit with a protestor’s sign. An LAPD horse that was wearing protective headgear was hit by a protester with a belt, but suffered no injuries.

The lawsuit seeks a court order restraining the city from prohibiting, interfering or discouraging Los Angeles police officers from wearing protective safety helmets during crowd control missions at protest demonstrations. The suit also directs the city to comply with all applicable safety laws and regulations in the future.

“We are disappointed that the LAPD has ignored our concerns about officer safety,” League President Paul M. Weber said. “Going against policy to take officers out of protective gear unnecessarily puts them at risk for serious or even fatal injuries. Police Officers deserve as much protection as police horses.”

“Sending police officers into potentially incendiary situations without proper protective gear puts the public at risk as well. Our officers

can’t protect the public if they are suffering injuries at the hand of demonstrators,” Weber said.

In addition, the Los Angeles City Council has asked for a full report on the January 10 attack. They are concerned police department management directed officers to arrive without helmets out of an unwarranted fear the protective gear might escalate tensions among the demonstrators. The motion by council members Dennis Zine and Bill Rosendahl asks the LAPD to provide a full report on its policies related to preparing and equipping officers assigned to crowd control, including “use and non-use of helmets and other tactical gear.”

“The LAPD’s own emergency operations guide clearly states: ‘DO NOT assign officers without helmets, vests and batons to crowd control missions.’ “The LAPPL firmly believes the law is on our side – helmets and face shields should be worn in large protest situations to prevent injury to officers and to help manage large groups of people who want to exercise their First Amendment rights,” Weber said.

About the LAPPL formed in 1923, the Los Angeles Police Protective League (LAPPL) represents more than 9,000 dedicated and professional sworn members of the Los Angeles Police Department. The LAPPL serves to advance the interest of LAPD officers through legislative and legal advocacy, political action and education. The LAPPL can be found on the web at www.LAPD.com

Los Angeles Police Protective League
1308 West Eight Street
Los Angeles, California 90017
Phone: 213.251.4554

EVERYDAY IS AN ADVENTURE IN A POLYGON HOME!



EXPERIENCE

POLYGON PRIDE!

ARMED FORCES, CIVIL SERVANTS AND TEACHERS RECEIVE A

\$5,000 Buyer Bonus*

WHEN PURCHASING A NEW POLYGON HOME!

We’re supporting those who support us!

Polygon recognizes the wonderful job you do each and every day – that’s why we want to extend this special promotion for those who support our nation’s security and education of children. Immerse yourself in a community that builds enduring friendships and a lifetime of memories against a picture perfect Northwest backdrop. Visit our website and see how at Polygon, a better home is just the beginning!

Polygon offers a spectacular collections of 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-bedroom homes and townhomes priced from the \$200’s to the \$400’s.

www.polygonhomes.com



Crosswater & The Pointe
Lake Stevens

Creekside
Kent

Madera at Lakeland
Auburn

The Estates at Lakeland Hills
Auburn

POLYGON NORTHWEST COMPANY

Career Survival

By Sergeant Randy Woolery, OPA-IS

The following is my personal opinion and in no way reflects the policy of or guidance from OPA. With that in mind, I have been on the Department for over 20 years and in this time I have made some mistakes. I have said things I later regretted and I made some choices that I wish I could change. I’m not perfect and neither are you. We all make mistakes; the important thing is to learn from our mistakes and the mistakes of others.

I believe that defensive tactics, firearm skills and physical fitness are very important parts of law enforcement. When you need them, you need them now and you don’t have time to learn them. This is why we practice and train in these areas. This is why we work out, eat health, and drink only in moderation (right?).

One thing we don’t seem to teach is career survival. It is very important to stay alive and win the fight. It is also important to keep your job, provide for your family, have health benefits, make it to retirement, and avoid costly civil suits or even prison.

When I first came on the Department I had a very good sergeant who was hired in the 50’s and had over 30 years when I had less than one. He told me that cops are not superheroes and you shouldn’t act like one. The primary focus of police work is to make the world a little safer and to help someone if you can. I’ll always remember him telling me that in police work you will help some people and hurt some people. At the end of the day and the end of your career, the

only thing that anyone will remember is how you treated the others you worked with. Bottom line!

The first step to career survival, in my opinion, is your personal and professional reputation. Nothing is more important or valuable, and the best part is you have **total** control over it. No one is more responsible for how others think about you, than you. Having a good reputation is pretty easy: Keep your word when you give it. Don’t be deceptive, manipulative, self-centered or backstab others. Be proficient and professional at your job. Don’t take yourself too seriously. Listen and actually care about each other. Be dependable and remember the golden rule. Having a good reputation will get you farther in live and in this career than almost anything else.

The opposite of a good reputation is a bad reputation. Having a good reputation is not the same as being everyone’s friend and a “yes” person. You don’t have to sell yourself out to be professional and dependable. If you have a bad reputation, however, everything is an uphill battle. Few people like you or want to work with/ around you. No one can depend on you and my guess is that this is reflected in your quality of work (or quality of supervision if you are a supervisor). You’re the last person anyone wants at their call because you create more work and escalate situations instead of deescalating them. The prosecutor’s office laughs at your reports and what little good you do is wasted because your arrests never get filed. Don’t be this person

because there is no benefit to being this person. Enough said.

You practice defensive tactics in case you need them to engage a combative subject; you qualify at the range in case you need to protect yourself or others; the next key to career survival is knowing the limitation of your authority and the Department policies that support the actions you take and the decisions you make. One of the most frustrating aspects of OPA is talking to officers or reviewing videos and reports and knowing the employee doesn’t know why or understand what authority/policy gave them basis for their actions. Police work is complicated and moves at the speed of light, you need to know before you do something why you can do what you are doing. The bottom line is read the policies and know them. I know the manual is big and frequently changes, all the more reason you need to review them and know them. Like defensive tactics, when you need it or get called to justify your actions, that is not the time to review and learn the policy involved.

Every now and then someone asks me what college classes they should take if they want a career in Law Enforcement, expecting me to suggest criminal justice or psychology. I’ve seen a lot of surprised looks when I tell them to take as many English and computer classes as they can. This is what we do all day (or night) long. We use computers and write reports. These skills are very important to your career survival. Your writing skills are very, very important to your career survival, on a number of different

levels. Properly documenting incidents/arrests will save you when complaints come in. Remember the expression, “The devil is in the details.” Details matter. Reports will prepare you as a witness in court and they are your best, and sometimes only, defense if you are sued and your new title becomes defendant. Take the time to complete reports in enough detail that when asked specific questions you can recall the incident. Make your reports neutral and professional. I read a lot of reports and to be honest I am surprised at some that get approved. These types of reports can cause problems for the writing officer during OPA interviews and I can only imagine what the impact could be during a civil trial.

This is a good time to suggest, again, giving witnesses and victims blank statements and letting them tell you their own version of events and what they think is important. There is an old saying that the complaint you expect never comes and the complaint you never expected is the one that catches you by surprise. Every call is important to the person who called, even if you think it is minor. Make them think is it important to you and that the Police Department cares. Also, most of our calls involve one or more parties who are not happy to see us there so the better your documentation the better off you will be if your actions are called into scrutiny.

Until next time, if you ever have any questions concerning the OPA process, the status of a complaint or a suggestion you would like to make, please feel free to give me a call or send me an e-mail.



SEATTLE METROPOLITAN
CREDIT UNION

SERVING THE CITY OF SEATTLE FOR 75 YEARS



206.398.5500 | WWW.SMCU.COM | 800.334.2489

DOWNTOWN SEATTLE | SEATTLE CITY HALL | NORTHGATE | LYNNWOOD
KIRKLAND | RAINIER AVENUE | GEORGETOWN | SOUTHCENTER



“We Proudly Support the Police and Family”

Your Complete Auto Repair and Body Work.
Best Price, Quality, Integrity, Honesty

Tony Lee, Owner

**One Stop
GREENWOOD
Auto Repair**

**30% Discount
Repair or Body**

Tel: (206) 706-2778
Cell: (206) 713-7322
Fax: (206) 789-0894
8208 Greenwood Avenue N.
Seattle, WA 98103

**GREENWOOD
Auto Body
and Paint**

SUPPORT THE GUARDIAN!

...by using our advertisers! Let them know you heard about them in

The Guardian

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain John Oas

The other day, one of my Volunteers at the ministry in Sea-Tac Airport asked for a key to the office. There is usually a lag time in getting this because I like to see how the person will cope with a little difficulty.

I asked why he wanted this key. Some of the common reasons were mentioned but with a straightforward manner, he said that this would make him feel liked he belonged. "I drive a long distance, and I feel that this will help me feel that it's worth it!"

Into my heart came the words of an old country tune... "Faith is the key to heaven. But hope unlocks the door..." I have been thinking that this is so very true. The sad thing is that many people have the key, but lack the hope to use it.

It is my prayers that counter to the ruin we see so often in our work, we in law enforcement will never lose hope for our daily lives. We do make a difference. We can care and yet be tough. We can unravel the details of

a complex case, and catch our "bad guy."

It takes faith in Eternal Values, determination against the odds, and the conviction that we are a part of fundamentals that are needed today. Then matching that with the hope that people can do the right thing, and we can be the motivation for the tide to turn.

I believe in Eternal Values, centered on God's love for each of us, and I believe in the daily efforts each of you make to keep our society safe!

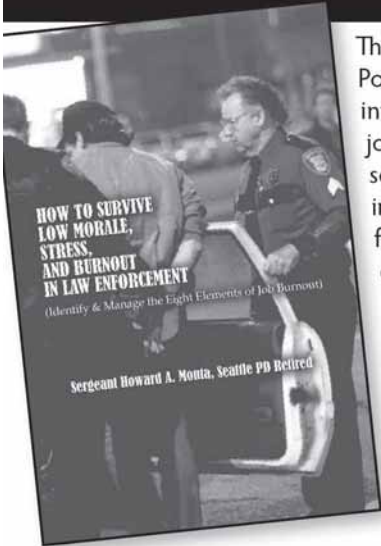
May His very best be yours,
Chaplain John K. Oas, D.D.
Chaplaincy International
Seattle Police Department
Criminal Justice Training Center

ChaplainJohn2000@yahoo.com
Phone Number: 206.650.9399 (24/7)
Contact me on FACEBOOK...
My schedule is open for public viewing... <http://calendar.yahoo.com/chaplainjohn2000/>

How to Survive Low Morale, Stress, and Burnout in Law Enforcement:

(Identify & Manage the Eight Elements of Job Burnout)

Sergeant Howard A. Monta, Seattle PD Retired



Throughout his twenty-nine-year career, Retired Seattle Police Sergeant Howard A. Monta maintained an interest in looking beyond the normal functions of his job description. Sergeant Monta supervised a patrol squad staffed by Field Training Officers, and was intensely involved in the training of student officers from 1990 to 1997. Monta maintained a curiosity and concern for the actions and feelings of others, always trying to find explanations for the reactions of people in response to their environment. He kept records and notes relating to events that caused significant negative reactions from peers and administrators—reactions that led to stress and morale problems. First and foremost of Sergeant Monta's interests were the causes of job stress, low morale, and burnout in the profession. This manuscript is meant to serve as a textbook that would familiarize prospective and current police officers with one of the most severe hazards of the profession, and offer advice to assist in overcoming this dangerous reality.

For purchase information please visit
www.publishamerica.com or call (301) 695-1707

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



- Transportation
- Registration
- Trade Show
- Silent Auction
- ...More...

Be a part of something special! The IAWP Seattle Conference Needs Your Help.

Visit our website www.iawp.us for the Volunteer Form.



Don't Miss Out!

International Association of Women Police

47th Annual Training Conference
September 20-24, 2009
The Westin Seattle

- Training & Development
- Top Quality Presenters
- International LE Delegates
- LE Trade Show and Exhibits
- Networking & Social Events

FACT: THE IAWP CONSISTENTLY RECEIVES HIGH MARKS FOR SUCCESSFUL TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT FROM ITS CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS.

Contact Sergeant Barbara Wilson for more details and to discuss. Telephone: (206) 251-5195, Email: barbara.wilson@seattle.gov

The International Association of Women Police is holding its 47th Annual Training Conference in Seattle. You can play an important role in this historic event. We expect 600 female police officers from around the globe. Volunteer Today!

© 2008 IAWP 2009 Seattle.

Have you seen exemplary service from a fellow officer lately?



Send your nominations to:
Detective Chris Hall, False Alarm Unit
OOM@seattlepoliceguild.org

Come See Our New Office!



Jennifer DeCastro

- For 40 years, **Bellevue ENT Clinic** has offered exceptional hearing health care to the Bellevue community.
- We are proud to announce the opening of our new facility, **SoundHearing.**
- **Jennifer DeCastro**, board-certified Doctor of Audiology, has over 20 years of experience to help you hear better.



Located on the main floor of the Overlake Medical Tower
1135 116th Avenue NE • Suite 165 • Bellevue
425-278-1805



Experience Matters

Experts in Repair, Maintenance and Preservation of Low Slope Roofing Needs

****The Board of Directors of the Seattle Police Athletic Association endorses BRD Roofing and offer our thanks for their commitment and generosity****

Commercial & Industrial Roofing Services

Serving the Entire Puget Sound Area

Call today for a **FREE** ROOF EXAMINATION
206-767-2995

With over 95 combined years in the commercial roofing industry, BRD Roofing has the knowledge and experience to provide you with cost-effective solutions to all your roofing needs.

BRD Roofing
309 S Cloverdale St. Suite C-40 Seattle, WA 98108
Contractors License #- BRDROR1954BQ

Philly FOP Confronts Arrogant, Insensitive Judge

Philadelphia police officers are outraged at a judge who dishonored and degraded the memory of Officer John Pawlowski who was murdered in the line of duty last Friday evening.

A photo of Officer John Pawlowski was in a place of honor on desk of the roll call room in the 35th Police District station. That roll call room also serves as a court for the judicial district.

When Judge Craig Washington began a court session in the 35th District’s roll call room, he ordered uniformed Philadelphia Court Officer Blanca Rodriquez to remove the photo. Officer Blanca refused. The judge then told Captain John McCloskey, the commanding officer 35th Police District to remove the photo. He also refused.

Claiming that he could not be “impartial” if that the photo of Officer Pawlowski was on the roll call room, desk Judge Washington turned the photo of Officer Pawlowski’s face down asserting the photo was inappropriate and a distraction.

Outraged members of the Philadelphia Police Department led by former FOP President Rich Costello confronted Judge Washington in a heated exchange which was captured by CBS3. Costello went face to face with Judge Washington. “Where the hell do you get that the photo of the slain

officer is inappropriate. Cite judicial precedent . . .” Costello demanded. “What is improper about the photograph of a slain police officer.” Current FOP President John McNesby held a news conference where he sadly observed, “It’s bad enough that police officers are being murdered by repeat violent offenders, who are let go by the same type of judges that we dealt with today.”

Officer John Pawlowski was a five-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department. The funeral will be held on Friday, February 20, 2009 at noon at the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul. Officer Pawlowski leaves a wife who is pregnant with their first child.

The suspect in the killing is Rasheed Scruggs who has been notified that he will be arraigned on first degree murder charges.

Judge Washington has been reassigned. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer, “Washington, 59, was elected a Municipal Court judge in 1997. In 2003, the voters retained him for another six-year term. The judgeship pays about \$154,000 a year.” He will be on the ballot for retention of his position in 2009.

See the video at: <<http://cbs3.com/topstories/Officer.John.Pawlowski.2.937254.html>>



*The 11th Annual
Washington State Law Enforcement
Memorial Ball
and Auction*

**Saturday, April 4th, 2009
Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center
Emerald Ballroom
17620 Pacific Highway South
SeaTac, WA 98188**

*Proceeds to benefit
Behind the Badge Foundation*

7:00 - 10:00 PM	Friday Night (times are approximate) Hosted Hospitality
12:00 - 4:00 PM 4:00 - 7:00 PM 6:30 - 10:00 PM 10:00 PM - 1:30 AM	Saturday (times are approximate) Hosted Reception, Registration No-Host Cocktail Hour, Silent Auction Seating for Dinner, Program, Live Auction Live Music and Dancing

Tickets: \$125 per couple; \$62.50 single (US)
Attire: Black Tie - Dress Uniform encouraged

Memorial Ball and Auction Special Discounts
Hotel Accommodations: Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center special rate of \$109.00 per night. For reservations, contact the Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center directly at: 206-244-4800.
Mention: Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial Ball and Auction or just use the following link for ease in making your reservation
<http://www.hilton.com/en/hilgroups/personalized/SEAHHH-LAW-20090403/index.jhtml>

Questions, Information or Ticket Purchase Opportunities:
Contact Kevin Haistings, Event Director at 206.799.4049 or khaistings@hotmail.com
Ticket Applications and Information Available Online at www.wslemf.org

COMING SOON

The **Ken Saucier Memorial Scholarship** will be awarding \$1000 scholarships to Graduating Seniors this spring

Eligibility Requirements:

Dependent of aSPOG member	3.0 G.P.A.
Accepted to a 2 year or 4 year Institution of Higher Learning or Vocational School	

Please watch for more information in upcoming *Guardians*

Call 206-767-1150 for more information

Have you registerd yet?

The SPOG Website
www.SeattlePoliceGuild.org

New Features

Current Grievances
SPOG in the news
SPOG contact lists
A members only section
Current Contract

For Active Members



Go to the SPOG Website
Click, “Members Area”
Register at the bot tom of the page to get your password

MAKE A NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION!

Change your life today!

BEFORE	 » Cleanses your body of impurities... releases stubborn fat » Helps build lean muscle » Replenishes the body with high quality nutrients » Creates an environment for wellness » FAST, safe weight loss » Increases energy and vitality » Endorsed by medical doctors » Easy to follow program	AFTER	
215 lbs., 38” waist		180 lbs., 31” waist	

*I was a runner in high school and college, and #1 in physical fitness in the Police Academy. As the years went by, I started adding on extra pounds that I couldn’t seem to get rid of. At 44 years of age, I found myself at 215 pounds and embarrassed to take off my shirt at the pool. I also didn’t have energy to keep up with my 3 small children. I am so glad that I found Isagenix. **I lost 35 pounds, gained more energy, and I feel fantastic!** I’m now 180 pounds, which is what I weighed in high school. Are you ready for a change? There’s no better time to start than now.*

Why work off-duty? Isagenix has an excellent compensation plan. Work out of your own home as a product rep for this fabulous system and spend more time with family and friends instead of security or flagging jobs. You can also enjoy tax advantages that come with owning your own business instead of working for others. Start owning your own life!

Contact David Sweeney today to learn how you can lose weight, feel great, or if you are interested in owning your own business!
online: dtmsweeney.isagenix.com **ph:** 206-883-6238

Retired News

By Mike Germann

New Retirements

Once again this month, there are no new LEOFF I or LEOFF II Seattle Police Officers applying for retirement. We'll let you know in this column when more information is known.

Reminders Reminders Reminders

- o S.P.O.G. Retirees: THOSE SO ENTITLED, will see increases on their February 27, 2009 Police Pension (City check) plus a limited amount of retro pay, dating from January 7, 2009. The percentage increase is 5.5%, dating from January 7, 2009.
Note: There is one more year (2010) remaining on the current Seattle Police Officers' Guild contract. Salary wise, on January 6, 2010, there will be an increase of 3% plus 100% of the local C.P.I.-W, 1982-1984=100, for the period June to June with a floor of 3% and a ceiling of 6%. When the actual percentage increase number is known, I'm quite sure it will be published in the Guardian.
- o S.P.M.A. Retirees: THOSE SO ENTITLED, are awaiting the finalization of the new police management contract covering the years 2009-2010-2011. As soon as the authorizing ordinance is passed and signed by the Mayor, information will be published in this column as to when some 100 retirees/beneficiaries, so entitled, can expect to see some more money on their Seattle Police Pension (City) retirement check/direct deposit. The 2009 percentage increase is 7.5%, dating from January 7, 2009, plus increased longevity.
- o Retired Officers' Association Dues: Ante-up retirees; it's dues time again for the Retired Seattle Police Officers' Association (R.S.P.O.A.). For a pittance of \$12.00 annually, what more can you ask for. Send checks in the amount of **\$12.00** to:

R.S.P.O.A.
c/o Nick Bulpin
5020 Brighton Place
Mukilteo, Washington 98275

Call Nick at (425) 349-5373 if you have any questions about your dues.
- o BLUE CLAN REUNION
RESERVATIONS: Those of you planning, or even thinking about attending the Blue Clan Reunion in March need to make arrangements A.S.A.P., says Pat Munter.

State COLA's Set

The Office of the State Actuary has calculated and published the 2009 Cost-Living Adjustments (COLA) for the LEOFF system, both LEOFF I and LEOFFII:

LEOFF Plan I

<u>Retirement Dates</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>
April 2, 2008 – March 31, 2009	0.00%
January 1, 2008 – April 1, 2008	4.48%
April 2, 2007 – Dec.31, 2007	8.44%
Prior to April 2, 2007	4.48%

For those LEOFF I retirees and lawful beneficiaries so entitled, the above pension payment increases will be paid to you on your April 30, 2009 State LEOFF I pension pay date.

An important thing to remember: Those LEOFF I retirees who receive an "excess benefit" pension payment from the City of Seattle (Police Pension Fund), in other words two monthly pension payments, will see their City payment decrease on your May 1, 2009 payment by the exact amount your State payment increases on your April 30, 2009 pension payment. "THE BEST OF BOTH." The State LEOFF I COLA has not been this high since 1990. Inflation is steadily increasing.

LEOFF Plan II

July 2, 2008 – July 1, 2009	0.00%
Prior to July 2, 2008	3.00%*
	*the maximum pension benefit cap allowed by law

Any questions about your pension benefit can be handled by the Seattle Police Pension Office. Call Mike Germann at (206) 386-1289.

Retired Seattle Police Officers' Association News

**Retired Seattle Police Officers Association
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
February 11, 2009**

President Taylor called the meeting to order at 11:35 in the dining room of the Four Seas restaurant at 8th S. and King Street. He began the meeting by announcing congress has approved veterans of the military may salute the flag during the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem. He then called on John Nordlund to lead the Pledge. Taylor asked all to remain standing for a moment of silence for Ed Francis and Vince Hanson who had recently passed on.

President Taylor stated the minutes of the January meeting have been distributed and asked for any corrections/additions. Ed Turner made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by John Guich and passed unanimously.

Nick Bulpin gave the financial report and stated it would be submitted for audit.

Pat Munter reported the Old Blue clan lodging is becoming scarce and urged everyone planning to attend should make arrangements soon. He also stated the lodging for the PNW in Kamloops, B.C. in May is filling up fast and stated if you are planning to attend to make arrangements as soon as possible.

President Taylor stated there are no bills in the legislature that are pending that would affect the RSPOA, however there is bill that would allow Fire Fighter widows to remarry and retain their benefits. He went on to report the merger of DRS and HCA will have one overall director following the retirement of Sandy Matheson. There is no impact foreseen at this time. President Taylor reported there is concern over the potential loss of retirement benefits because of the downturn in the State economy. Taylor explained the pension is a guaranteed defined benefit and is in no danger. He explained "smoothing" over a four year period which protects retirement monies from fluctuations due to the economy. Taylor also reported there are some cities and counties that are refusing some retirement benefits and that the LEOFF 1 Coalition is monitoring this and is positioned to start litigation if necessary.

President Taylor welcomed Mike Germann as a guest speaker. Mike reported the Seattle Police Management Association have reached a tentative contract settlement with the City. It is a 3 year contract with the first year increased at 7.5% with the following 2 years ceiling of 7% and a low of 2.5% depending on the CPI. There is also a 2% increase for longevity for 25 and 30 years. This settlement has not yet been approved by the city. Mike stated those who get a city check will see an increase of 5.5% on the February check. He anticipates a 4.8% raise in April that will affect all. You can expect a reduction in your city check and an increase in your state check following the April increase. The pension payments balance out to the same amount.

Ray Carroll reported officers Ron Smith and Dennis McCoy are in need of financial assistance for their \$20,000.00 in legal fees incurred following an altercation that took place in Sturgis, South Dakota during a motorcycle rally last year. Ray urged all to send a donation to the Guild to help them out.

There being no further business Dick Rovig moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Myron Maxwell. 41 people then enjoyed another great lunch.

Nick Bulpin Secretary/Treasurer



"We proudly back and support the men & women of the Seattle Police Department"



Tina Bueche
SPD Proprietor & Friend

Fashion for women from local artists and interesting lines from everywhere....

**206 First Avenue South
Seattle (206) 447-7731**

*Hours: 10-6 M-Th, 10-7 Fri,
12-6 Sat, 12-4 Sun*



Your Ad Belongs Here!

**Call Sarah at
(206) 767-1150**

March 2009 Retirees' Birthdays

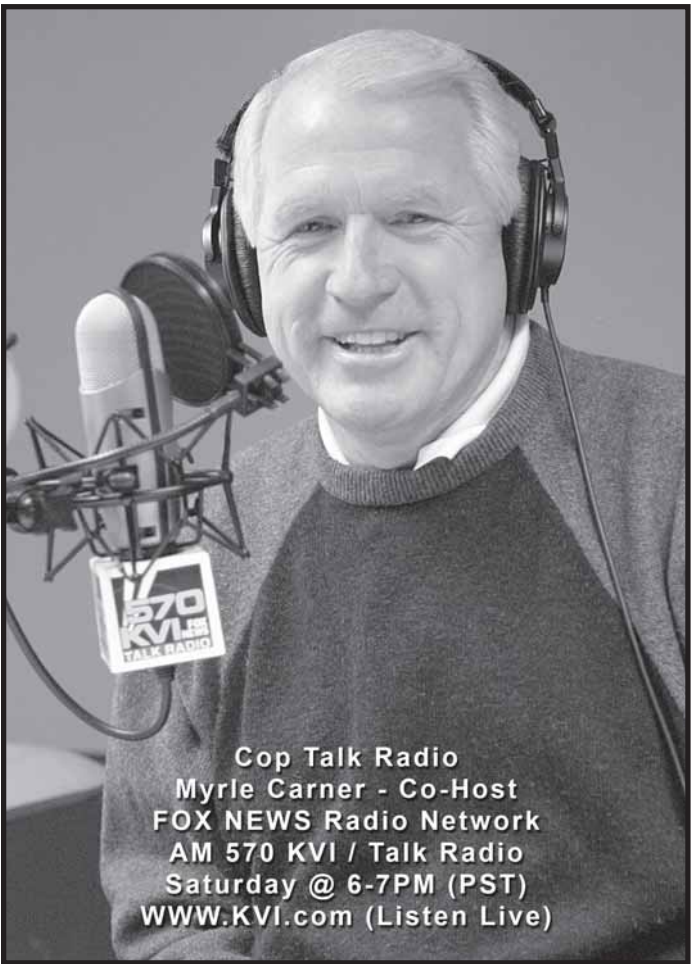
Ed. Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the retiree's March Birthdate
Gerald B.**Adams** (1), Bonnie C.**Bartley** (16), Anita Kay**Beeson** (11), Lee D.**Benjamin** (13), Karl G.**Bergstrom** (23), Jerald A.**Bickford** (1), Lorraine J.**Bowerman** (23), William P.**Brandner** (17), Robert E.**Caruth** (13), Dorothy M.**Cathey** (20), Michael R.**Chamness** (21), Michael**Chartrand** (29), Alan J.**Citron** (31), Donald R.**Coble** (14), Thomas M.**Cook** (4), James L.**Cvar** (7), Clara R.**Dempsey** (1), John H.**Dinse** (10), Mona E.**Elliott** (25), David M.**Estes** (26), William G.**Evans** (22), William F.**Fenkner** (23), Harvey D.**Ferguson**, Iii (9), Bonnie**Fitch** (14), Daniel S.**Fordice** (25), Wayne R.**Fox** (1), Stanley K.**Fridell** (2), Walter E.**Furler** (4), Robert C.**Garnett** (4), Robert A.**Gebo** (27), John E.**Gergich**, Jr (20), Edward W.**Grant** (26), Gary A.**Greene** (28), Henry T.**Gruber** (17), Michael D.**Hagler** (26), Rolene L.**Hardy** (1), Thomas L.**Helms** (29), Richard W.**Herron** (21), Wallace E.**Hingtgen** (10), John D.**Hoffard** (2), Steven L.**Jarvis** (30), Theodore E.**Jensen** (12), Edward H.**Joiner** (20), Lawrence D.**Jones** (26), Gracie Kay**Lange** (20), Robert L.**Lisoski** (13), Larry L.**Lynne** (26), Walter R.**Maning** (26), Myron C.**Maxwell** (12), Robert N.**McDonald** (5), Steven D.**McDonald** (18), Daniel P.**McFadden** (1), William J.**Mineo** (14), William F.**Moffat** (26), John M.**Moffat** (26), Neil W.**Moloney** (10), Waldo F.**Morell** (17), James R.**Muir** (25), Patrick W.**Murphy** (17), Darla Ann**Murphy** (25), Dolores**Myers** (11), Constance**Porter** (31), Norman M.**Putnam** (9), Ernest R.**Randall** (30), Francis C.**Riley** (7), Donald J.**Robinson** (29), Ronald E.**Schimke** (24), Glenn R**Scott** (3), Michael T.**Scott** (10), Terry R.**Shipp** (30), David N.**Sorensen** (14), R. Alan**Sorensen** (30), Fred G.**Still**, Jr (18), James D.**Stitt** (2), Steven L.**Stokke** (1), Donald H.**Talmadge** (13), Dennis D.**Tichi** (4), Jack J.**Vale** (28), Daniel J.**Vanmill** (3), Donald F.**Vert** (20), Paula J.**Viegas** (5), Craig S.**Vold** (2), Lily M.**Vonallmen** (31), Robert P.**Waite** (27), Manuel E.**Washington** (1), Gary L.**Weyers** (31), Bruce H.**White** (3), Pamela R.**Zarko** (3)

SPRA MEMBERS

The Phoenix condo is now available for month-long rentals!
(except March)



Renting for \$1,500 per month: Two bedroom, two bathroom townhouse adjacent to Paradise Valley and Scottsdale. On public golf course, hiking, shopping and dining nearby. Outdoor pool and Jacuzzi, fitness center and on-property movie theater room.
Contact Lisa at (206) 726-9095 for availability and information.
See www.reliefassociation.org for additional property details and photographs.



Cop Talk Radio
Myrle Carner - Co-Host
FOX NEWS Radio Network
AM 570 KVI / Talk Radio
Saturday @ 6-7PM (PST)
WWW.KVI.com (Listen Live)

Last Ring

Gary D. Pankey, #2546, retired Seattle Police Patrol Officer, passed away suddenly in Seattle on January 10, 2009. He was 66 years of age upon his death.

Gary Pankey was born on October 2, 1942. He was appointed a Seattle Police Patrolman on January 31, 1966. Officer Pankey was assigned to Patrol and as a sworn Police Radio Dispatcher. Gary was retired from active police service on November 12, 1979.

Gary Pankey is survived by his wife, Concetta. They had been married for 46 years. Also surviving are 3 children, 2 sons and a daughter, and 5 grandchildren.

A “celebration of life” was held on January 24, 2009 at Café Javasti in Seattle’s Maple Leaf neighborhood.

Edward L. Francis, #765, retired Seattle Police “Patrolman”, passed away on January 26, 2009 in Mesa, Arizona. He was 87 years of age upon his death.

Ed Francis was born on March 9, 1921. He was appointed a “Patrolman” of the Seattle Police Department on January 1, 1947. He was a career uniformed officer and served in what are now the North, West and East Precincts. Ed’s style of police work was from a different era, but was effective for its time. Ed Francis retired from police service on February 7, 1971, following 24 years in uniform.

Ed Francis’ wife, Helen, predeceased him on March 9, 2008. They had been married for 62 years and she was 89 years old upon her death.

Edward L. Francis is survived by a son, Jon L. Francis, of Twisp, Washington.

Vincent H. Hanson, #1632, retired Seattle Police Officer, passed away on February 11, 2009 in the Anacortes, Washington area. He was 81 years of age at his death.

Vince Hanson was born on November 25, 1927. He was appointed a Seattle Police “Patrolman” on July 6, 1955. Vince is best remembered for his work in public relations/labor relations. He knew how to handle a labor picket line during work stoppages and strike situations. He was well respected and sought after for this kind of intervention. Vince Hanson retired from active police service on July 25, 1974, following 19 years of loyal and dedicated service.

Following retirement from police work, Vince opened his own small business to advise small businesses and labor leaders how to resolve their labor disputes without violence or threat of violence. He was quite successful, so I’m told.

BUT, ABOVE ALL ELSE, HE WAS SO PROUD TO HAVE BEEN A SEATTLE POLICE OFFICER, so says his wife, Lenora.

Vince Hanson is survived by his wife of 20 years, Lenora, two sons, two stepchildren, six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Memorial services were held on February 21, 2009, as follows:

1:00 p.m. Memorial Service
Hawthorne Funeral Home
Mount Vernon, Washington

2:00 p.m. Reception
Mount Vernon Elks Lodge

The Seattle Police Honor Guard was in attendance to pay their respects.

Also, our condolences to the family and friends of the following Seattle Police widow:

Rena Thoresen, age 87, surviving spouse (widow) and lawful beneficiary of deceased retired Seattle Police Sergeant Walter P. Thoresen, #718, passed away peacefully on January 23, 2009 at Sunrise Nursing Home in Edmonds, Washington.

Rena’s husband, Sergeant Walter P. Thoresen, #718, predeceased his wife on October 15, 2003. He served as a sworn member of the Seattle Police Department from April 28, 1941 until he retired from police service on March 30, 1966, following 25 years in uniform. Walt and Rena were married for 62 years when he passed away and reportedly were close and devoted to each other.

A son, Ken Thoresen of Bothell, survives his parents.

MAY THEY ALL REST IN PEACE.

Editor's Notes

By Detective Ron Smith, Editor



This will not come as any surprise to you, but I would be remiss if I didn't reflect on an institutional gem we have within the SPD. Chaplain John Oas has served this department for over 30-years. Each of us knows him on sight, and hopefully many of you have spent a little time talking with this generous man of the cloth. I count "Chappy," as I affectionately refer to him as a sounding board, confidant and Christian brother. A few weeks ago when my maternal grandmother passed onto Heaven, my mother was tasked with taking care of all of the usual arrangements. While Grandma was a believer, she didn't attend church. Mom called me and asked if I knew of a pastor who could preside over Grandma's services. I called Chappy John, and without hesitation he agreed to preside over my Grandma's graveside services, though he had never met her, or any other member of my family. Chappy John and his lovely wife Kay were so very gracious on that beautiful February day when we laid Grandma to rest, amazing my emotional family with his grace. Chappy John loves each and every one of us who toils with the SPD badge. If you do not yet contribute to the Chaplain's Association, please consider to do so. Chappy John is a treasure that deserves to be properly compensated and taken care of. Chappy John makes SPD a better place to be.

Finally, should you ever find yourself in the unfortunate situation of being involved in a shooting or other high profile incident, which without fail shall light up the Seattle blogosphere, do yourselves a favor and do not read them. Thankfully I knew better last summer, after watching several of my good friends be ripped apart in the past by those keyboard commandos who hate the police. I certainly did not need any further stress, and am glad I had the discipline to ignore the blogs. Right after the New Year's Day officer involved shooting, my first thought was to try and contact the involved officers and give them this advice. I did not want to overstep my bounds and butt in "unofficially." I later learned from one of the involved officers that he made the mistake of reading some of these blogs, and wished that someone would have warned him not too. I wish I would have made that call and saved that hero the stress of Seattle's keyboard commando's vitriolic rhetoric.

Daylight savings time starts March 8th; Spring Forward! Take care of yourselves and each other, and remember when the "Man" wants you to do more with less, do less by ensuring that you are more safe! Feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions at spoguardian@yahoo.com.

SEATTLE POLICE MOTORCYCLE DRILL TEAM 60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET LEAVENWORTH, WA MAY 2, 2008

The Seattle Police Motorcycle Drill Team 60th Anniversary Banquet will be held in conjunction with the team's first performance of 2009 at the Apple Blossom parade in Wenatchee, WA on May 2, 2009. The banquet and lodging will be at the Icicle Inn in Leavenworth, WA. All Drill Team Alumni are invited to attend the banquet. For more information please contact John Bernasconi at 206 300-4232.

Calendar of Events

- Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office**
Wednesday, March 11th at 1300 hours
- Seattle Police Motorcycle Drill Team Talent Show**
Friday, March 20th at 1700hours
- SPOG Membership Meeting**
Wednesday, March 25th at 2000 hours

A BETTER ROOFING COMPANY

Owned & Operated by Kurt & Scott MacMillan
(Sons of SPD Don & Terri MacMillan)

COMPOSITION SPECIALISTS
Plenty of local and Seattle Police Officer References

Roofing the King, Pierce & Snohomish County areas since 1991

FREE ESTIMATES (206) 935-1575
www.ABetterRoofing.com

Licensed • Bonded Insured
St. Ctr. Lic. No. BETTERC052DT
MASTERCARD/VISA

BUY A PAIR OF ANY 5.11 BOOTS
Receive FREE 5.11 Tactical TDU pants & socks!
*A \$49.99 value.**

SEATTLE
8610 Aurora Ave N
800-537-5277
M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm
Sa 9:00am - 1:00pm

DES MOINES
21621 Pacific Hwy S
800-495-6265
M-Th 10:00am - 6:00pm
Fr 10:00am - 5:30pm

*Free pants and socks will be sent direct from 5.11 Tactical. See store for details. Offer good through 3/31/09.

BLUMENTHAL
UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

www.blumenthaluniforms.com

Do you have an upcoming IIS Interview?
Contact SPOG now to schedule a rep!
206-767-1150 or online at www.seattlepoliceguild.org

LIFE IS NOT SIMPLE... *and neither is planning for your future.*

You already trust us to defend you in on-duty employment related matters, but we can also help with proactive planning for other important events in your life. Stafford Frey Cooper is a full service law firm that can assist with your comprehensive Estate Planning needs. Stafford Frey Cooper offers SPD officers discounted rates for estate planning packages that include Wills, Domestic Partnership Agreements, Trusts, Medical and Financial Durable Powers of Attorney and Health Care Directives. Don't put it off another day. Contact us for details.

Stafford Frey Cooper can also assist you with other legal matters such as:
Business Organization and Planning | Personal Injury
Probate Administration | Real Estate Matters



STAFFORD FREY COOPER
A Professional Corporation

601 Union Street, Suite 3100
Seattle, WA. 98101-1374

Phone: (206) 623-9900
Fax: (206) 624-6885